**ST PETER APOSTLE CHURCH, RUSHDEN**

Parish Priest: Rev Dariusz Bialowas

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Deacon: Rev Peter Remmington

Parish Secretary: Charmaine: Tue to Thu: 10am - 2pm Parish Safeguarding Representative: Stuart Pearce

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Website: [https://rushdencatholicchurch.co.uk/](https://rushdencatholicchurch.co.uk/index.php/weekly-newsletter/)

Twitter:  [www.twitter.com/rushdencatholic](http://www.twitter.com/catholicrushden)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPeter](http://www.facebook.com/StPeter)

ApostlechurchRushden

**17th December 2023 – YEAR B**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**GAUDETE SUNDAY**

**MASS BOOK:** Page 87

**PREFACE:**  Advent 2

**EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**: Number 2

**MYSTERY OF FAITH:** Save us, Saviour of the world …

**Sat:** 6:30pm - Page RIP

**Sun:** 10:00am - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

**Tue:** 10:00am - Eleanor Murray RIP

**Wed:** 7:00pm - John & Mary Miller RIP

**Thu:** 10:00am - Special Intention

**Fri:** 12 noon - Lily & John Riddle RIP

 7:00pm - Special Intention

**Sat:** 6:30pm - Bob Coton RIP

**Sun:** 10:00am - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

 **Christmas Eve**

 5:00pm - Vigil Mass (Family Mass)

 11:30pm Carols

 Midnight Mass - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

**Mon:**

 **Christmas Day**

 10:00am - People of St Peter’s living & deceased

Confession: Friday 11am-12noon and 6:30pm-7pm

Rosary: Wednesday 6:30pm

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Ethan St. John-Dickenson, Henryka Kusek, Margaret Ward, Mariola Hejna, Peter Barnet, Clare Shaw, George Sutton, Barbara Robson, Urszula Solujan, Mary Lynam, Hannah Way and Sheila Gilholme.

**Please remember in Prayer**

Fleurette, Annie, Sophie, Neil, Steven, Hajni, Lena, Tony A, Fleurette, the Schiff family, Wenitro, Virgilio, Juliana, Cecilio, Brian, Bridget and the Ward family, Anne & Marcus, William, Kieron, Sue, Myla, Eric, Margaret, Brig & family, Theresa & family, Peter Gunn, Helen & Jack, Marcus, Susan, Craig, Mariam, John Paul, Jacob, Clare, Silvester, Baby Olivia and Sindhu.

**OFFERTORY:** Last week’s collection amounted to £484.51. Thank you very much.

**BAPTISM:** Of Oscar James Miguel Angel Jiminez Carney will take place at 11:30am this Sunday, December 17th and the family would like to invite members of the congregation to join them.

**APPEAL UPDATE:** Thank you very much for your generous response to our appeal. The amount donated was £2768 of which we have spent £610 on the Ambo. We await the Divine Mercy picture and the Monstrance. The remainder of the money will be spent on additional improvements to the Church.

**CAROL SERVICE:** Our Christmas Carol Service begins at 4pm this Sunday, December 17th followed by festive refreshments in the Parish Hall afterwards. Please do come along and support this event to begin your celebration of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**CHURCH DECORATION:** The decoration of the Church for Christmas will be on Thursday December 21st at 10:30am, after the 10am Mass. All offers of help are very welcome.

**DIOCESAN CALENDAR:** A limited number of diocesan calendars are available at the back of Church at £5 per calendar. All proceeds from the sale will go to promoting priestly vocations across our diocese.

 **FOODBANK DONATIONS:** There is a comprehensive list of requested items at the back of Church (including tinned foods & household goods). Please keep the donations coming, as stocks are running low and demand is increasing more and more. Thanks to everyone for all the donations, both of goods and money!

**FR RICHARD MORONEY:** Following the sad news of the death of Fr Richard, please note that his funeral arrangements are as follows:

Holy Family Catholic Church, 24 Freshwater Close, Marsh Farm, Luton, LU3 3TA

Reception: Monday December 18th at 5pm

Requiem: Tues December 19th at 11am followed by the

Committal at Luton Crematorium at 12:30pm.

If you intend to attend please notify:

parish.holyfamilyandstjohn@northamptondiocese.org

**ADVENT RETREAT:** Week 4, Monday December 18th from 7:30 to 8:30pm. Our online Advent retreat this year is “Let the Wilderness Bloom!”. Join Fr John Udris and Avril Baigent to explore the desert life of John the Baptist. This week’s theme is vulnerability: how our faith grows the more we learn to rely on God. Join us live on Monday evening or access the recording at a more convenient time at: <https://pastoralministryoffice.org/bloom/>.

**THE PLAY AT WINTERSHALL:** The Life of Christ Wintershall play will take place on Friday June 21st 2024 in the spacious grounds of Wintershall estate, Guildford, Surrey. A coach will leave at 7am from Corn Market Hall, Kettering and will have a toilet, air conditioning and space below for folding or fixed garden chairs. All weather clothing is recommended as the weather can be variable in June. It is also suggested that you bring food and a lightweight folding garden type chair. Tickets are £30, Students £15 and are available from Graham and Rose Smith at gjjjjsmith@gmail.com or 07932 643368.

**Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel**

1. ‘There is one among you whom you do not know’. We can know about Jesus but do we know him? *What helps you to know Jesus in a way that enables you to follow in his footsteps, trusting God as he did, and seeing other people as he did?*

2. John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus. *Who have been the people who have borne witness to you of the good news of the gospel that God loves you - a friend, a parent, a teacher, etc.? To whom have you borne that witness?*